

## Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 ISO-00 ACDE-00 AECE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00

SSO-00 NSCE-00 AEC-05 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-05 IO-04 L-01

NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-03 PRS-01 SAJ-01

SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 RSC-01 NSC-05 /068 W

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O R 251735Z OCT 74

FM USDEL MBFR VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0540

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

S E C R E T MBFR VIENNA 0353

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: LIMITATION OF AIR FORCE MANPOWER

1. UK AND FRG REPS HERE TELL US THAT THERE HAS BEEN  
SOME CONFUSION IN THEIR NATO DELEGATIONS ABOUT THE  
DURATION OF A NATO COMMITMENT NOT TO INCREASE AIR  
FORCE MANPOWER FOR A FIRST PHASE AGREEMENT. THIS IS  
REGARDLESS OF THE FORM IN WHICH THE COMMITMENT IS  
UNDERTAKEN. THESE REPS POINT OUT THAT, TO THE EXTENT  
THE EAST ACCEPTS FOR A PHASE I AGREEMENT THE CONCEPT  
THAT ONLY GROUND FORCES WOULD BE REDUCED BUT THAT  
AN UPPER LIMIT WOULD BE PLACED ON AIR FORCE MANPOWER,  
THE EAST WILL ALSO LEGITIMATELY EXPECT THAT A PHASE

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II AGREEMENT WOULD INCLUDE THE SAME OBLIGATION.

THESE REPS THEREFORE BELIEVE THAT THE QUESTION NATO SHOULD BE EXAMINING INTERNALLY AT THIS TIME IS NOT MERELY WHETHER IT IS FEASIBLE FOR NATO TO PUT SOME UPPER LIMIT ON AIR FORCE MANPOWER FOR THE PERIOD BETWEEN THE PHASES, BUT WHETHER AN ENDURING LIMIT IS ACCEPTABLE IF IT IS NECESSARY TO GAIN EASTERN ACCEPTANCE OF THE WESTERN POSITION THAT REDUCTIONS BE CONFINED TO GROUND FORCES.

2. UK AND FRG REPS AGREE THAT ALLIES SHOULD PROTECT THEMSELVES AND MAINTAIN LEVERAGE ON EAST THROUGH LIMITING THE DURATION OF ANY COMMITMENT TO LIMIT AIR FORCE MANPOWER IN CONNECTION WITH PHASE I AGREEMENT. BUT THEY POINT OUT THAT ALLIES WILL ALSO HAVE TO BE IN A POSITION TO INFORM THE EAST, WHEN ASKED, THAT THE COMMITMENT WOULD BE EXTENDED IN A PHASE II AGREEMENT.

3. AS NOTED IN MBFR VIENNA 291, PARA 9, AND MBFR VIENNA 329, PARA 4, WE HAVE ASSUMED THAT THESE POINTS WERE IMPLICIT IN ANY WESTERN FIRST PHASE COMMITMENT TO LIMIT AIR FORCE MANPOWER, AND BELIEVE THIS IS ALSO THE VIEWPOINT OF WASHINGTON AGENCIES. BUT APPARENTLY UK AND FRG REPS FEEL THAT THESE POINTS HAVE NOT EMERGED SUFFICIENTLY CLEARLY FROM US PROPOSALS TO DATE. IF THIS IS IN FACT THE CASE, WASHINGTON AGENCIES MAY WISH TO AUTHORIZE USNATO TO MAKE CLEAR THAT, ALTHOUGH THE INITIAL ALLIED COMMITMENT ON THIS SUBJECT WOULD BE VALID ONLY FOR A FIXED PERIOD OF TIME TO COVER THE PERIOD BETWEEN THE PHASES, THE ALLIES WOULD IN FACT ENVISAGE ITS CONTINUATION IN A PHASE II AGREEMENT. CONSEQUENTLY, IT SHOULD BE STUDIED BY NATO ON THAT BASIS AND ALLIED REPS IN VIENNA AUTHORIZED TO MAKE THIS POINT TO THE EAST. RESOR

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